

INTERNATIONAL LAKE SUPERIOR BOARD OF CONTROL

<http://www.lre.usace.army.mil/Storage/HH/IJC/Superior/index.shtml>

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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LAKE SUPERIOR OUTFLOW CONDITIONS

The International Lake Superior Board of Control, under the authority granted to it by the International Joint Commission, has set the Lake Superior outflow to 2,080 cubic meters per second (m^3/s) (73.5 thousand cubic feet per second (tcfs)) for the month of December. This is the outflow recommended by the regulation plan for the month of December and is a decrease from the November outflow of 2,230 m^3/s (78.8 tcfs).

The December outflow will be released by discharging about 1,966 m^3/s (69.4 tcfs) through the three hydropower plants and passing most of the remaining flow through the control structure at the head of the St. Marys rapids. The gate setting of the control structure will be maintained at the existing setting equivalent to one-half gate open (four gates open 25 cm, or about 10 inches each). There will be no change to the setting of Gate #1 that supplies the Fishery Remedial Works.

The November water supplies to Lake Superior and to Lakes Michigan-Huron were well below average. This past month the level of Lake Superior declined by 8 centimeters (cm) (3 inches), whereas it usually declines by about 5 centimeter (cm) (2 inches) in November. Currently, the Lake Superior level is about 14 cm (6 inches) below its long-term average beginning of December level, but about 2 cm (1 inch) above the level recorded last year. The level of Lake Superior is now 12 cm (5 inches) above its chart datum level. The level of Lakes Michigan-Huron also declined by more than its usual amount in November. The level of Lakes Michigan-Huron is about 44 cm (17 inches) below its long-term average beginning of December level, and is now about 9 cm (4 inches) below the level recorded last year. Lakes Michigan-Huron's level is now 4 cm (2 inches) below its chart datum level. The Board continues to monitor conditions both on Lake Superior and downstream and will advise the International Joint Commission accordingly on those conditions.

Brigadier General Steven R. Hawkins, Commander, Great Lakes and Ohio River Division, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, is the United States Board Member. Mr. Peter Yee has been appointed as the Board Member for Canada.

For further information please contact Carl Woodruff as indicated above.

The Internet homepage at <http://www.lre.usace.army.mil/> provides access to additional information.